HEALTH
28 JUL 1943
G.D.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
LIBRARY

SMALLBURGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
For the Year 1942.

SECTION A.

Area of District in acres.............	70,017
Population (1931 Census).............	15,690
Population (1942,Estimated)...........	15,430
Structurally separate dwellings (1931 Census)	
Occupied	4,376
Unoccupied	433
Rateable Value	£59075
Penny Rate (estimated)	£261.

		Total.	M.	F.
LIVE BIRTHS	(Legitimate	249	131	118
	(Illegitimate	19	10	9
	Total	268	141	127

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 17.37

		Total.	M.	F.
STILL BIRTHS	(Legitimate	8	6	2
	(Illegitimate	1	1	-
	Total	9	7	2

Still Birth Rate for 1,000 total births, 32.49

	Total.	M.	F.
DEATHS	206	107	99

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 13.29

Deaths from PUERPERAL SEPSIS:- Nil.

Deaths from other PUERPERAL CAUSES:- Nil.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

	Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate	11	8	3
Illegitimate	2	1	1
	13	9	4

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	48.51
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	44.18

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	26
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)... ...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)..	1

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious diseases in the Year 1942. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England & Wales.	126 C.Bs and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adm County.
✗ Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:-				
Live Births	15.8 ∤	17.3	18.4	14.0
Still "	0.54∤	0.66	0.62	0.48
Deaths:-				
All Causes.	11.6 ∤	13.3	12.1	13.9
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough.	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.04
Diphtheria	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.02
Influenza	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.07
Smallpox.	-	-	-	-
Measles	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Rates per 1,000 Live Births:-				
Deaths under 1 Year of Age.	49	59	46	60
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of Age.	5.2	7.5	4.8	8.6

✗ A dash (-) signifies that there were no deaths.

∤ These rates are those published in the Quarterly Return.

	England & Wales.	126 C.Bs and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adm County.
✗ Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:-				
Notifications:-				
Typhoid fever.	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02
Paratyphoid fever.	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	0.14	0.17	0.12	0.15
Scarlet Fever.	2.19	2.49	2.34	1.86
Whooping Cough.	1.73	1.97	1.58	2.72
Diphtheria.	1.05	1.35	0.91	0.76
Erysipelas.	0.30	0.36	0.26	0.43
Smallpox.	0.00	0.00	-	0.00
Measles.	7.46	9.27	7.39	8.62
Pneumonia.	1.07	1.30	0.94	0.94
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still) :-				
Maternal. Mortality:- (Excluding Abortion)				
Puerperal Infection (No. 147)	0.42)	NOT AVAILABLE.		
Others	1.59)			
Total	2.01)			
Notifications:-				
Puerperal Fever)	12.61	15.94	10.80	(3.10
" Pyrexia)				(17.69 ≠

≠ Including puerperal fever.

SECTION B.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT.

D.G. SHIELDS, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Medical Officer of Health.

A.L. TAUNTON, C.R.S.I., Sanitary Inspector.

LABORATORY FACILITIES. Norfolk County Laboratory.

AMBULANCE SERVICES are obtained from the British Red Cross Society at Norfolk & Norwich Hospital, North Walsham and Great Yarmouth Hospital.

NURSING IN THE HOME.
(a) District Nurses of Norfolk Nursing Federation.
(b) Private hire in infectious diseases.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. None in District.

HOSPITALS. Norfolk and Norwich, Jenny Lind (children), Great Yarmouth and North Walsham Hospitals all take cases from the Area. Infectious cases for which isolation is considered necessary are admitted to the County Isolation Hospital at Dereham. The Coltishall Nursing Home is closed for the duration of the War.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:	Total.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	17	3	-
Diphtheria	4	3	1
Whooping Cough	25	-	1
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Measles	3	-	-
Pneumonia	12	1	13
	62	7	15

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The campaign for the immunisation of children against diphtheria has made good progress. Bythe end of 1942 2,249 children under the age of 15 had been immunised under the Council's scheme; this represents just over 83 per cent. of the estimated child population of the District (2,700). It is well known that the pre-school child, aged 1 to 5, runs the greatest risk from diphtheria, and that this section of the population has in the past been the most difficult to reach with immunisation schemes; it is therefore satisfactory to note that in 1942 nearly twice as many children under 5 were immunised as children in the 5-15 group, the figures being 160 and 99 respectively.

An outbreak of diphtheria occurred in a Council house temporarily overcrowded by the presence of a soldier and sailor relatives on leave; one case proved fatal, and it is significant that the victim, a little girl aged 4, was the only child in the family who had not been immunised.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases during 1942.

	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Aged under 1	-	-	-	-	-
" 1 - 5.	-	-	-	1	1
" 5 - 15.	-	-	2	3	5
" 15 - 25.	1	-	-	-	1
" 25 - 35	1	1	-	3	5
" 35 - 45	2	1	2	-	5
" 45 - 55	-	-	-	-	-
" 55 - 65	-	-	1	-	1
" over 65	-	-	-	-	-
	4	2	5	7	18

Deaths during 1942.

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Aged under 1	-	-	-	-	-
" 1 - 5.	-	-	-	-	-
" 5 - 15	-	-	-	-	-
" 15 - 25	1	1	-	-	2
" 25 - 35	-	-	-	1	1
" 35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-
" 45 - 55	1	-	-	-	1
" 55 - 65	2	-	-	-	2
" over 65	-	1	-	1	2
	4	2	-	2	8

Among the new cases it is noticable that the proportion of non-respiratory tuberculosis is on the increase; this is in accordance with the experience in the county as a whole, and indeed throughout the country, and has led to a good deal of official and public discussion on the problem of tuberculous milk. There is no doubt that the policy of the Ministry of Health is aimed eventually at the pasteurisation of all milk sold for human consumption, a difficult proposition in rural areas with the present restriction of transport. At a County conference of Medical Officers and Sanitary Inspectors it was decided to initiate a new scheme of regular biological sampling of all milk-supplies; Mr. Taunton is doing his best to carry out this instruction, but is handicapped by having no trained assistant.

Pending further developments those members of the public who have ~~who~~ charge of children under the age of 15 would be well-advised to scald or pasteurise raw milk before giving it to the children. Milk may be "home-pasteurised" by heating to 145° - 150°F. in a double saucepan for 30 minutes and then rapidly cooling.

It would be helpful if the Ministry of Health would adopt a simpler nomenclature for the various grades of milk, such as A.B. and C. or 1st. 2nd. and 3rd. grade. The terms at present used are confusing and convey nothing to the average consumer.

GENERAL.

The Council are agreed on the fact that sewerage schemes are needed for the parishes of Hoveton and Stalham.

Great difficulty is being experienced in carrying on existing scavenging schemes, owing to shortage of labour etc., Generally speaking the position is far from satisfactory and no solution has so far been found.

There is very little overcrowding in the District, in spite of the demand for accommodation. Families are small nowadays, and

many of the existing Council houses are occupied by only two persons. A housing survey throughout the area is being carried out by Mr. Taunton.

D. G. SHIELDS.

Medical Officer of Health.

A. L. TAUNTON.

Sanitary Inspector.